

3rd Declension

Markers and Identifying Features

1. The 3rd declension is a big mix of masculine, feminine, and neuter nouns
2. Its thematic vowel is -i
3. Its genitive ~~gga~~ ending is -is
4. There is no main pattern to determine The nominative singular form for any 3rd declension noun
5. Almost all 3rd declension nouns change their stem to a different spelling from The nominative singular form. Therefore, the nominative singular is very often spelled differently than the rest of the forms.

Here are The standard case-forms for masculine/feminine nouns:

Ex. lux, lucis, f. - light

Case	Singular	Plural	* Note that The nominative singular here is 'lux', but the stem changes to 'luc-'
Nominative	lux	luc <u>es</u>	
Genitive	luc <u>is</u>	luc <u>um</u>	
Dative	luc <u>i</u>	luc <u>ibus</u>	Some examples to show stem change:
Accusative	luc <u>em</u>	luc <u>es</u>	* princeps, principis, m. - chief
Ablative	luc <u>e</u>	luc <u>ibus</u>	* mos, moris, m. - custom